

**SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS**

Please amendment paragraph [0225] as follows:

-- [0225] The fibers can grow in the direction of the other electrode until the gap is bridged, with the wires remaining in contact after the electric field is removed. The nanowire growth is caused by particle aggregation at the tip of the fibers, thereby extending them toward the opposite electrode. The tip of the growing nanowire creates local electric fields of high intensity and gradient, giving rise to a dielectrophoretic force, which causes the aggregation. A non-limiting example of dielectrophoresis has been demonstrated by Hermanson et al in "Dielectrophoretic Assembly of Electrically Functional Microwires from Nanoparticle Suspensions", Science, vol 294 (5544): 1082. --